



SAKI TSUKAHARA

REPLAY







KIRE COMICK IYUN COLLECTION

## CONTENTS

PRESENTED BY  
SAKI TSUKAHARA

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1st inning

REPLAY



IT'S A  
WALK-OFF  
HOMERUN  
THAT'S  
TURNED  
THIS GAME  
AROUND!

WAAAAH!

IT'S IN!

...THE  
WHITE BALL  
CUT HIGH  
THROUGH  
THE SKY AND  
DISAPPEARED  
INTO THE  
BATTER'S  
EYE.

ZSH

WOOOOT!

AND WITH IT  
ENDED OUR  
SUMMER.





HUP!

TODAY'S THE DAY I NAB HIM AND MAKE HIM PLAY CATCH WITH ME!

KNOCK THAT OFF, MIZUHARA!

DAMN THAT RITSU. EVER SINCE WE RETIRED FROM THE BASEBALL CLUB, HE'S SUDDENLY GOTTEN SO DISTANT...



\*THE COLLECTIVE UNIT OF A CATCHER AND A PITCHER

THAT'S WHERE I MET RITSU...

RITSUUUUU!

I'VE PLAYED BASEBALL SINCE AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER.

ON DAYS I DIDN'T HAVE SCHOOL, MY DAD WOULD TAKE ME TO PLAY BY THE RIVER UNTIL SUNSET.

AND AFTER EVENTUALLY FORMING A BATTERY\* WITH HIM...

WE'VE BEEN LIKE A MARRIED COUPLE EVER SINCE.



PREFECTURAL OSHI EAST



RIRI!  
♡



HUH?

WHERE'S MY RIRI?



RITSUUUUU!

LET'S GO HOME!



DID YOU TWO HAVE A MARITAL DISPUTE NOW THAT YOU'RE BOTH RETIRED?

TCH. YEAH, RIGHT.



YO, MIZUHARA.

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR MASHINO, HE JUST LEFT.



AGAIN? I'M ALWAYS TELLING HIM TO WAIT FOR ME.





BASEBALL  
ENDS IN HIGH  
SCHOOL.

WE'RE  
FRIENDS.

EVER SINCE  
WE RETIRED  
FROM THE  
SPORT, YOU'VE  
BEEN NO FUN TO  
HANG OUT WITH!  
WE'RE A MARRIED  
COUPLE,  
REMEMBER?

WHEN IT  
COMES TO  
BASEBALL,  
SURE.

AFTER RITSU  
STOPPED  
PLAYING  
BASEBALL,  
HE SHIFTED  
RIGHT INTO  
ENTRANCE  
EXAM MODE.

SINCE I'M  
NOT AS  
SERIOUS  
ABOUT  
IT AS HE  
IS, THIS  
IS HOW  
HE'S BEEN  
ACTING  
TOWARD  
ME.

JEEZ...  
SORRY.

I'M NOT  
AS GOOD AT  
SWITCHING  
GEARS  
AS YOU.



OF  
COURSE...  
I WANT US  
TO GO TO  
THE SAME  
COLLEGE  
TOO.

BUT SINCE  
HE'S APPLYING  
TO THE SAME  
COLLEGE I AM,  
S UNIVERSITY,  
I GUESS HE'S  
WORRIED.

WITH THE  
KINDS OF  
GRADES  
RITSU GETS,  
HE COULD  
GO TO  
AN EVEN  
BETTER  
COLLEGE.

I KNOW  
YOU'RE A  
SLOW  
STARTER, BUT  
GET TO WORK  
ALREADY.

I KNOW.  
I WILL,  
I PROMISE.

I'LL AT LEAST  
CRACK OPEN  
MY NOTEBOOK  
WHEN I GET  
HOME.



I'VE GOT  
STUFF TO  
DO TODAY.

AND  
DON'T  
CLING TO  
ME. IT'S  
TOO HOT.

WHAT  
DO YOU  
WANT?

WHAT THE  
HECK? DON'T  
IGNORE ME!

I'M  
GOING  
TO CRAM  
SCHOOL.

AAAW!  
AGAIN?! WE  
HAVE CRAM  
SCHOOL  
TODAY.

WHY  
DON'T  
WE THROW  
THE BALL  
AROUND BY  
THE RIVER  
WHILE WE'RE  
AT IT?

WHAT  
ELSE? TO  
WALK HOME  
TOGETHER.

OR AT  
LEAST  
THAT'S  
WHAT I  
THOUGHT.



YOU  
KNOW?  
♡

I KNOW.

BUT I'M  
THE TYPE WHO  
CAN'T SHOW MY  
TRUE ABILITIES  
UNTIL I'M  
FORCED  
TO.

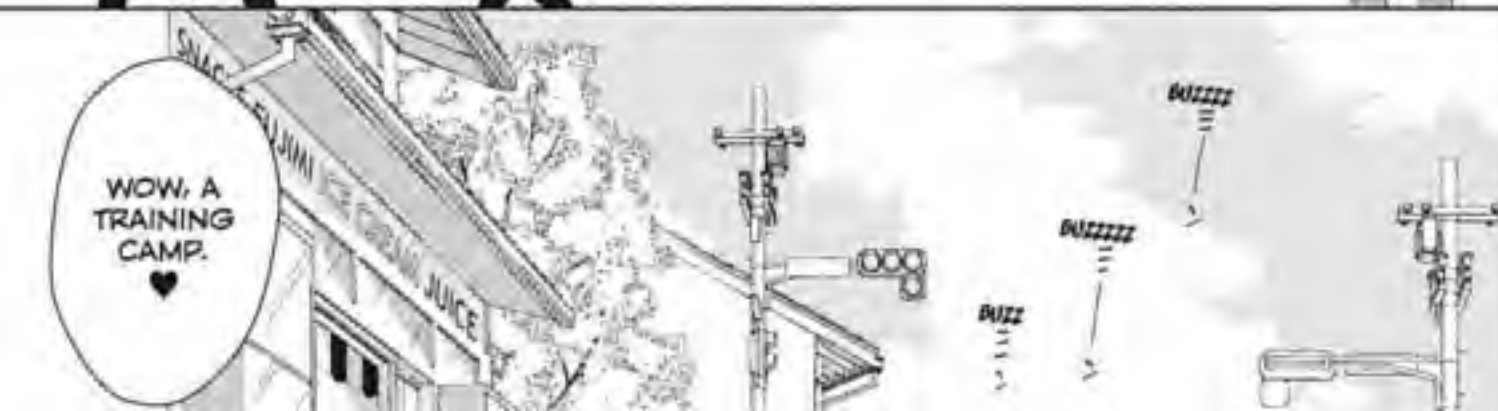
JUST  
A LITTLE,  
GRANTED.

WHAT'S UP  
WITH YOU  
LATELY? WHAT'S  
THIS STUFF  
YOU HAVE TO  
DO THAT YOU  
KEEP SNEAKING  
HOME FOR?

YOU'VE  
GOT YOUR  
MOCK EXAMS  
COMING UP  
TOO, YUTA.  
YOU SHOULD  
BE FOCUSING  
ON STUDYING.

I'M NOT  
SNEAKING  
ANYWHERE.  
AND IT'S  
NOTHING  
SPECIAL.

























YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING LEFT, SO TAKE CARE OF YOUR FACE.

IF YOU TOOK AWAY BASEBALL AND YOUR FACE...

...

RUB



KEEP THAT ICE ON IT A LITTLE LONGER.

THAT'S OFFENSIVE.

I'M GOING TO THE COACH'S OFFICE NOW.

...OKAY.



IT WAS ONLY A NOSE-BLEED? NO INJURIES?

UH-OH... IS HE MAD AT ME?

OKAY.

THUD

GET BACK TO CLASS ONCE YOU'RE DONE CHANGING, MIZUHARA.

MASHINO, STOP BY MY OFFICE FOR A SPARE UNIFORM.



BE CAREFUL.

RITSU'S ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A NAG WHEN IT COMES TO INJURIES.

I CUT THE INSIDE OF MY MOUTH A LITTLE, BUT IT'S TOTALLY FINE.

UH... NOPE.



THUD



ANY TIME'S FINE. TODAY'S MY LAST DAY OF GYM ANYWAY.

THAT'S RIGHT! TODAY WAS MY CLASS'S LAST DAY TOO.

SORRY, RITSU.

I'LL WASH YOUR UNIFORM AND RETURN IT TO YOU TOMORROW.



2nd inning

REPLAY

I'LL  
DO IT!!

I'LL PLAY  
PITCHER!

wonder

NO  
WAY!

DARN  
FOURTH  
GRADERS!!

ALL  
RIGHT  
LET'S PLAY  
GLOBE BALL!

HA  
HA  
THAT  
GLOVE'S A  
TOY. DON'T  
WASTE OUR  
TIME.

I'M NOT A  
SHORTY!

IF YOU  
DON'T  
WANT TO  
PLAY IN THE  
OUTFIELD,  
THEN GET  
LOST,  
SHORTY!

HEY.

CLENCH

USUALLY,  
HE'D HAVE  
GIVEN ME  
A LONGER  
LECTURE.

I HAVE  
NO IDEA  
WHAT'S  
GOING  
THROUGH  
RITSU'S  
HEAD  
THESE  
DAYS.

BUZZZZ

MASHINO

BUZZ

BUZZ

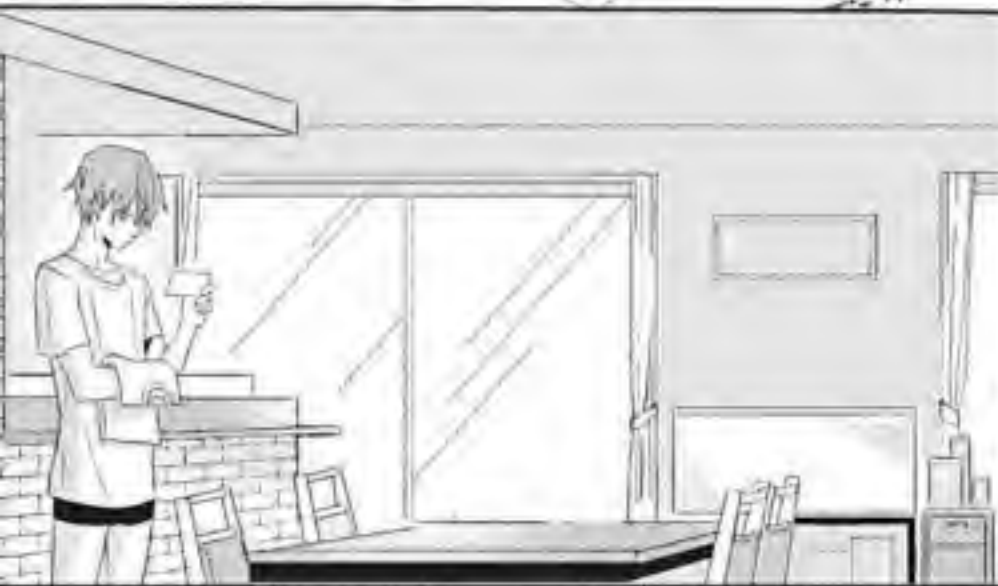
BUZZZZ

ON THE  
FIELD, WE  
UNDERSTOOD  
EVERY FACET  
ABOUT EACH  
OTHER, BUT  
NOW...

















IT'S SO WEIRD.

EVEN THOUGH WE USE THE EXACT SAME MISO AS YOUR HOME, IT DOESN'T TASTE THE SAME AT ALL.

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE WE MAKE THE STOCK FROM DRIED BONITO SHAVINGS?



WHERE'S ALL THE FIXINGS?

YEAH.

AND IF I ASK RITSU, HE'LL PROBABLY JUST TELL ME "IT'S NOTHING SPECIAL."

DO YOU LIKE HOW IT TASTES?



CREW

YOU DO TOO.

WE PUT IN WHOLE FISH SINCE THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE GOOD FOR YOUR BONES.



KUDA

I'M OVERTHINKING THIS WHOLE GIRLFRIEND THING.

TIMES LIKE THIS, RITSU'S NO DIFFERENT FROM USUAL.

BACK IN THE DAY, WHEN IT WAS SUMMER VACATION, WE'D SLEEP OVER AT EACH OTHER'S HOUSES AND DO HOMEWORK. YOU REMEMBER?

YOU MEAN YOU'D COPY MY NOTE-BOOKS.



OH, DRIED SARDINES.

I MEAN DRIED SARDINES.



ZOOP

SPARKLE

SPARKLE

!!



!!!

SMACK

FOOD!



THE TRUTH IS...

SCREW IT. IT'LL BE MISO SOUP WITHOUT ANY FIXINGS!

WHAT IF THAT HAD HIT ME IN THE NOSE? BE MORE CAREFUL.

MUTTER I CAN'T HELP IT. SEEING YOUR FACE MAKES ME WANT TO PLAY BASEBALL, RITSU.

MUTTER

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID BASEBALL AND MY FACE ARE ALL I HAVE.

I HAD WANTED TO ASK RITSU'S MOM WHERE HE KEEPS GOING, BUT IN THE END, I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO.









ME TOO.



I WANT  
TO BE WITH  
YOU, YUTA.



YOU'RE  
RIGHT.



THAT'S WHY  
YOU HAVE TO  
TRY HARD TO  
GET INTO S  
UNIVERSITY.

SWOON  
♡



WE'RE ONLY  
A MARRIED  
COUPLE IN  
OUR BATTERY.

ほん  
PAMF COLLECTION LAB  
PAST EXAM QUESTIONS  
WE'RE  
FRIENDS.



BUT YOU  
HAVE TONS  
OF PEOPLE  
YOU CALL  
FRIENDS.



EVEN IF  
WE'RE NOT  
IN A BATTERY  
ANYMORE, I  
STILL WANT  
US TO BE  
TOGETHER.

I'VE NEVER  
BEFORE HAD  
TO THINK OF A  
REASON TO BE  
WITH YOU,  
BUT...









3rd inning

REPLAY





3rd inning

REPLAY



I GET TO  
GO OUT  
FOR A  
DRIVE  
AND HAVE  
LUNCH TOO.



AAAWWW!

COACH! I'M  
STARVING!  
LET'S GO EAT  
FIRST! EAT!!

SWAM

FIRST,  
WE SHOP.  
NOW  
GET IN!














OH,  
THAT'S  
RIGHT,  
MIZUHARA.



ARE YOU  
INTERESTED IN  
CONTINUING TO  
PLAY BASEBALL  
IN COLLEGE?



RITSU...




YES...



"LET'S TAKE  
HIM OUT  
IN THREE  
BALLS!"


"THROW  
THE BALL  
LIKE YOU  
MEAN IT!"



ANYWAY,  
CAN WE GET  
TO THE POINT  
ALREADY?

WELL, SHUCKS.  
I'M HONORED YOU'D  
BE SO HAPPY EVEN  
THOUGH I'M NOT  
EVEN ACTIVELY  
PLAYING ANYMORE.

BFFFFT



YES...

I'M  
SORRY.



WHAT'S  
THIS?  
YOU'RE  
CRYING?

MIZUHARA,  
YOU'RE GETTING  
TOO EMOTIONAL  
OVER GETTING  
TO MEET  
SHIMA.







YOU DONE GETTING READY FOR THE CAMPP?

...

I'M GOING TO START NOW.

YEAH?

WELL, OKAY THEN.

NO, NOTHING...

YOU WENT OUT WITH THE COACH TODAY, RIGHT?

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

IS THIS PHOTO FROM JUNIOR HIGH?

WERE YOU LOOKING AT THIS AND CRYING?

YOUR EYES ARE RED...

THAT COULDN'T BE IT, COULD IT?

WHY DON'T YOU GO UP AND CHECK ON HIM, RIRI?

I DOUBT HE'S EVEN GOTTEN READY FOR THE TRAINING CAMP.

HE WAS SO EXCITED ABOUT GOING SHOPPING WITH THE COACH TODAY...

YUTA, IT'S ME.

KNOCK

KNOCK

I'M COMING IN.

HIS FAVORITE PHOTO

CRUSH

THUD

THUD

THUD

YO!

KLATCH

YU...







IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE THAT WAY...

AND THAT HE WANTED TO BE WITH ME, SO WHAT THE HELL?

IN THAT CASE...

HE TOLD ME TO WORK HARD TO GET INTO S UNIVERSITY...

I'M...

DIVORCING YOU!

I'LL GO TO N UNIVERSITY AND FIND A NEW HUSBAND!

YOU...

ROTTEN MUSHROOM!!

WAIT—

HAVE FUN IN S UNIVERSITY WITH YOUR GIRLFRIEND.

KLATCH

GRAB

SHOVE

OW!

WHAT?!

SLAM

14300m/1

BECAUSE IT HAS A PROGRAM I WANT TO GET INTO.

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY? JUST BE STRAIGHT WITH ME.

THAT'S NOT THE ONLY REASON, IS IT?

WHY DID YOU DECIDE ON S UNIVERSITY, RITSUP?

I LOVE BASEBALL

YOU'RE THE ONE NOT BEING STRAIGHT WITH ME!

AND THEN TELL ME TO GO TO THE SAME COLLEGE AS HIM?

DOES MY REASON FOR CHOOSING S UNIVERSITY...

JUST FORGET IT. LEAVE.

NO.

HOW CAN HE TREAT ME LIKE THIS...

HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH WHY YOU WERE CRYING TODAY, YUTAP?











I'D MISUNDERSTOOD THE WHOLE SITUATION?

SHE WORKS SHIFTS SO I MEET HER ON OCCASION.

THE WOMAN I WAS WITH WAS THE RECEPTIONIST FROM THE DRIVING SCHOOL.

RITSU WAS DOING THIS FOR ME.

HEY, YUTA...

WERE YOU JEALOUS?

RITSU'S STILL JUST AS SPECIAL TO ME AS HE EVER WAS.

I'D MISS NOT GETTING TO SEE HIM.

SO WHAT IF I WAS!

かあ  
BLUSH

I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL YOU UNTIL I HAD MY FULL LICENSE.

WHY DID YOU HIDE IT FROM ME?

BUT WHO CARES?

I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO COMPARE ME TO THE COACH...

YOU'RE SO LUCKY YOU ALREADY HAVE YOUR PERMIT.

Jonathan

YOU'RE SO OBSESSED WITH HIM...

IT'S NOT A LECKBUS BUT...

SO...

YOUR BIRTHDAY'S NEXT MONTH, RIGHT?

SO THAT'S WHY?

YOU NEVER SHUT UP ABOUT GOING OUT ON DRIVES AND HIS CAR AND STUFF.







ISN'T THE  
ONLY THING  
I CARE  
ABOUT.

GETTING  
TO PLAY  
BASEBALL...



YOU'RE  
ONE OF THE  
REASONS...



WHY I LOVE  
BASEBALL  
AS MUCH  
AS I DO.



WOULD YOU  
REALLY BE  
OKAY WITH  
THAT?



WELL.

GOOD  
NIGHT.

VROOOOM



I THINK  
IT'S A GOOD  
OFFER.



YOU CAN  
PLAY YOUR  
BELOVED  
BASEBALL  
IN COLLEGE  
AGAIN.

ABOUT  
THE REC-  
OMMEN-  
DATION.

WITH YOUR  
SKILLS, YOU  
COULD STILL  
TRY FOR  
BEING AN ACE  
IN COLLEGE,  
YUTA.

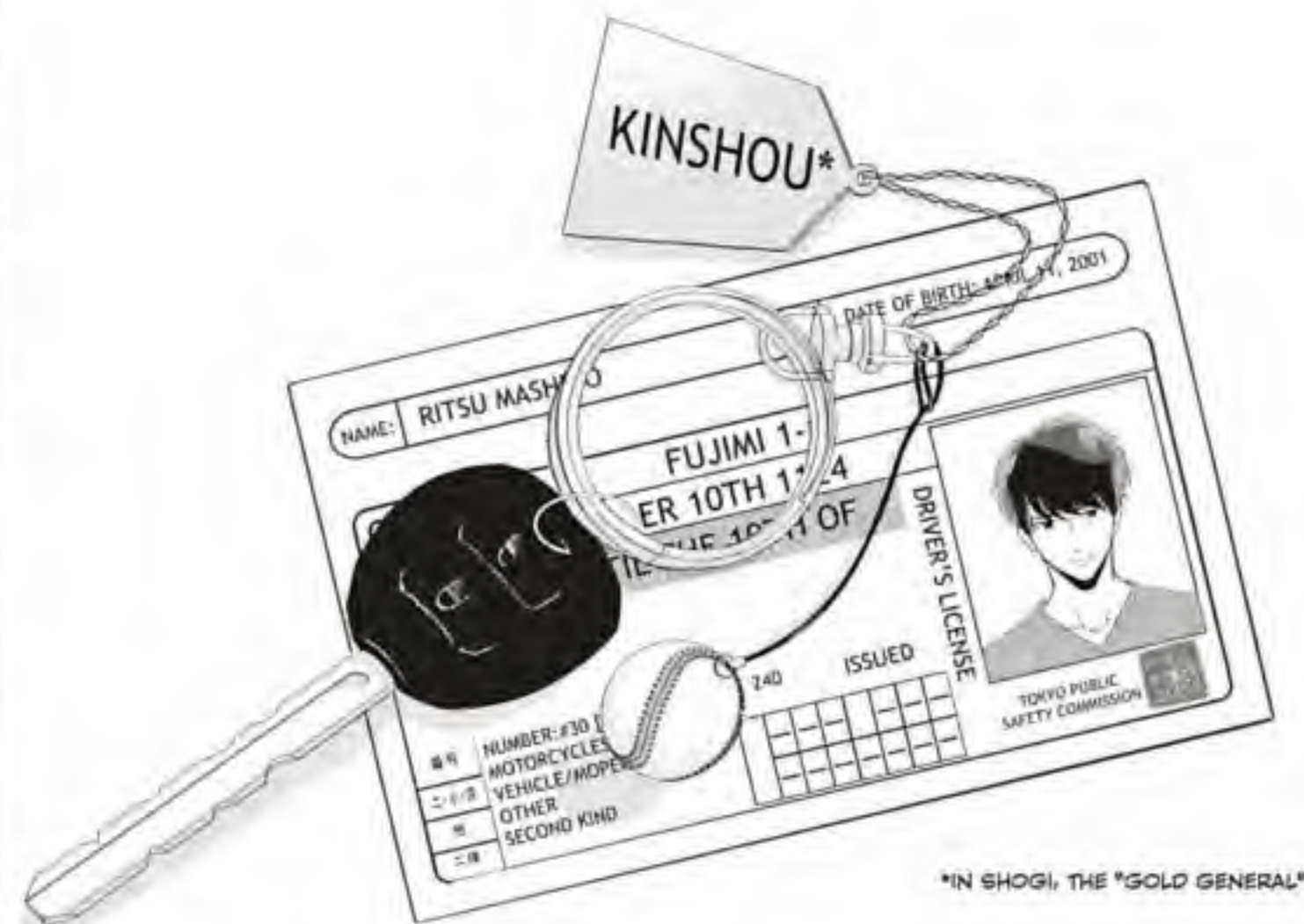
BY  
THE  
WAY,

SHWIF

IS THAT WHAT  
YOU MEANT... BY  
THERE BEING 1%  
ABOUT ME THAT'S  
"IMPOSSIBLE TO  
DECIPHER"?







\*IN SHOGI, THE "GOLD GENERAL"





4th inning

REPLAY



I KNEW IT.  
YOU LOOK  
BEST IN A  
UNIFORM.

I'LL WHIP  
THOSE  
CUTE LITTLE  
JUNIORS  
INTO  
SHAPE!

OKAY,  
OKAY.  
LEAVE  
IT TO  
ME!

THAT  
BOTHERED  
RITSU.

I'M SORT-OF  
SURPRISED...



THANKS.

RIRI,  
YOU'RE SO  
HANDSOME.  
♥



I CAN  
FEEL IT!

STOP  
THAT,  
YUTA.  
YOU'LL  
BREAK  
THE BED.

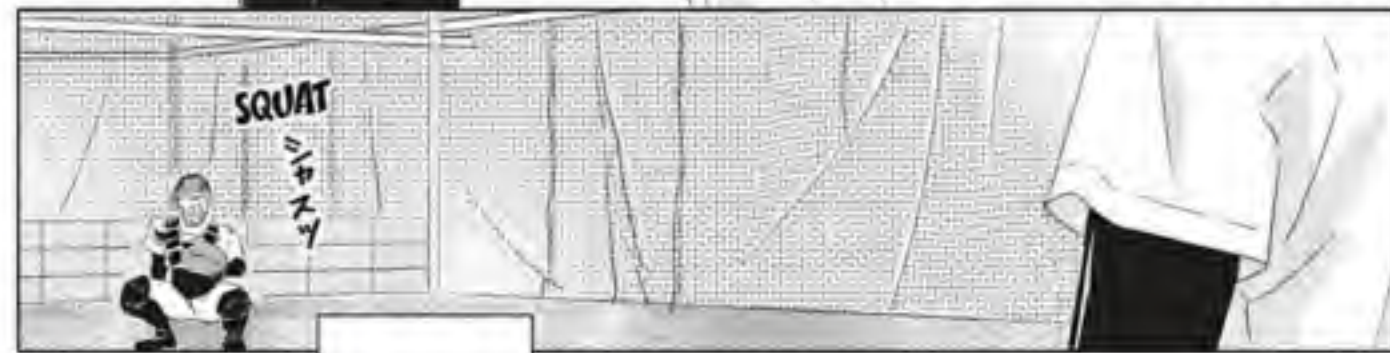
MY  
HEART'S  
BEATING  
LIKE  
CRAZY!

IT'S  
AMAZING  
RIGHT  
NOW!









THIS FEELS LIKE THE SELECTION TEST, I'M SO NERVOUS.



I HOPE HE DOES A GOOD JOB CATCHING MY BALLS.

PHEN.

SCUFF #11

YAMASHITA'S STILL A FIRST-YEAR.





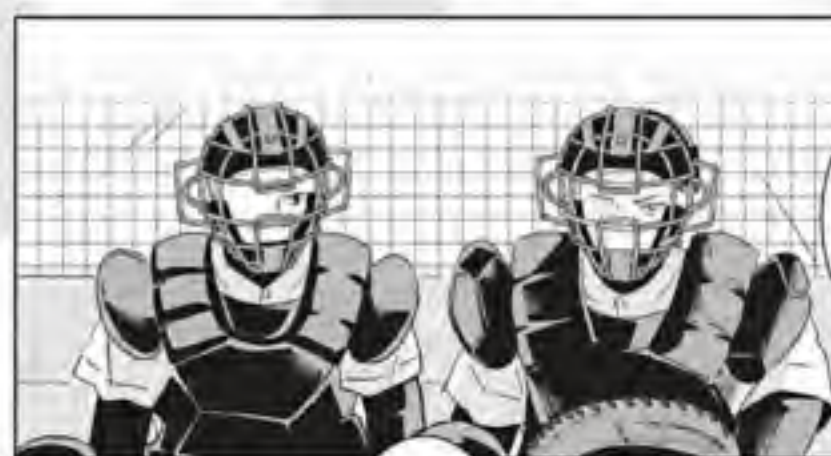


MASHINO!



SHOOT. I'M  
GETTING  
OFF MY  
GAME TOO.

I'VE ONLY  
GOT TEN  
BALLS LEFT  
THOUGH.



KEEP  
YOUR  
MITT  
STILL.

WIDEN YOUR  
STANCE MORE.  
DON'T KEEP  
YOUR ARMS  
SO CLOSE TO  
YOUR BODY.

WATCH.



RITSU...



WHAT'RE  
YOU DOING,  
YAMASHITA?!  
GET ON A  
GRIP ON IT!



YES,  
SIR!

I'M  
SORRY!



MY BAD.

BUT HE  
CAN'T. HE'S  
PRACTICING  
WITH THE  
FIELDERS.

I WANT  
RITSU TO  
BE THE ONE  
CATCHING  
MY BALLS.



I'M SO  
SORRY!

THAT  
WAS A  
NICE  
BALL!



PSSHT



RITSU'LL  
ALWAYS  
BE THE  
EASIEST TO  
THROW AT.





NICE BALL!







UH-HUH.  
GOOD WORK.

SQUEAK

GOOD WORK TODAY!

CHIRP  
CHIRP  
CHIRP



PHEW, THAT WAS MY FIRST GOOD SWEAT IN A WHILE.

BUT I MADE YAMASHITA HAVE TO GET A WHOLE BUNCH OF PEP TALKS FROM THE COACH.

AND WITH SHIMA HERE TODAY, I WAS SO NERVOUS.



I'M GONNA GO ON AHEAD.  
YOU'RE LUCKY SHIMA WAS ABLE TO CATCH FOR YOU.



IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, YUTA.  
IT'S THE CATCHER'S DUTY TO HELP THE PITCHER THROW GOOD BALLS.



SHIMA COMPLIMENTED ME ON IT.

DID RITSU SEE THAT BALL JUST NOW?

WOW! JUST AS I'D EXPECT FROM SHIMA!





WHY DO  
I STILL  
FEEL LIKE  
THERE'S  
SOME-  
THING  
BETWEEN  
US?

THE MISUN-  
DERSTAND-  
ING'S AL-  
READY BEEN  
CLEARED UP.



OH.  
THANKS...

HOW  
ABOUT  
I CUT THEM  
FOR YOU?



RUB

RUB

HOLD UP,  
RITSU.

HEY,  
WAIT!



?

I'M SO HAPPY  
I GOT TO PLAY  
BASEBALL WITH  
RITSU AGAIN.



AND  
EARLIER...

YEAH,  
YOU'RE  
RIGHT.

I SHOULD'VE  
CUT THEM  
BEFORE I  
CAME TO THE  
TRAINING  
CAMP.

AREN'T  
THOSE  
BANGS...  
GETTING IN  
THE WAY?







HEY,  
WHY DON'T  
YOU PLAY  
BASEBALL AT  
N UNIVERSITY  
TOO, RITSU?

FORM A  
BATTERY  
WITH ME—

LIFT  
YOUR  
CHIN.

HOLD  
YOUR HEAD  
STRAIGHT.



CLOSE  
YOUR  
EYES.

MM.



YEAH,  
RIGHT.

GOOD  
FOR  
YOU...



DON'T  
WORRY. I'M  
SO GOOD-  
LOOKING, I  
CAN MAKE  
ANYTHING  
WORK.

I'M NOT  
VERY GOOD  
AT THIS.



HOW'D  
THINGS GO  
WITH THE  
RECOMMEN-  
DATION?

FLUTTER



YEAH?


GOOD  
FOR YOU.

SHIMA'S  
INSISTING  
HE'D LOVE TO  
DO IT FOR  
ME.











THEN WE  
CAN'T BE  
TOGETHER.



TO HAVE  
COME  
THIS FAR...  
AND PLAY  
BASEBALL  
WITHOUT  
RITSU.




THAT'S  
NOT WHAT  
I WANT.




IF I LOVED  
ONLY  
BASEBALL...

I WOULDN'T  
SAY THIS,  
BUT...

I LOVE  
YOU TOO,  
RITSU.




YOU AND  
I HAVE  
LIVED OUR  
WHOLE LIVES  
CENTERED  
AROUND  
BASEBALL.




AND THERE'S  
SOME  
UNDER  
YOUR  
NOSE.

YOU  
GOT SOME  
ON YOUR  
MOUTH.



COULD  
ENJOY A  
NORMAL LIFE  
AS COLLEGE  
STUDENTS.

THAT'S  
WHY IF WE  
GOT INTO  
COLLEGE,  
I THOUGHT  
YOU AND  
I...



IF YOU'VE  
CAUGHT  
SHIMA'S  
EYE, THEN  
I'LL STAY  
OUT OF IT.

YOU  
REALLY  
LOVE YOUR  
BASEBALL.

SO YOU  
SHOULD  
CONTINUE  
WITH IT.

BUT  
I GUESS  
THINGS  
WON'T  
GO AS  
PLANNED.





GOING  
FORWARD...



KNOCK  
KNOCK



ONCE  
AGAIN...

SADUMP

SADUMP



WHO'S  
THAT?

I UNDERSTAND  
MYSELF LEAST  
OF ALL.



WHAT  
SHOULD  
I DO?



SO  
THEN...

WHAT IS  
IT I WANT  
TO DO?



YOU DON'T  
NEED ME TO  
SAY IT...

TO  
KNOW,  
RITSU.



HE KNOWS  
EVERYTHING  
ABOUT ME.





5th inning

REPLAY

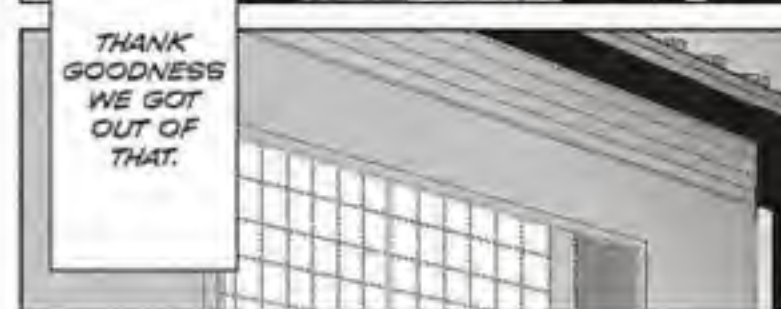


LOOKING AT  
THOSE TWO  
REMINDS ME  
OF HOW WE  
USED TO BE.

FURUYA  
& SHIMA











A NORMAL  
LIFE AS  
COLLEGE  
STUDENTS  
WITH RITSU...

THAT'S WHAT  
RITSU HAD  
HAD IN MIND.



EVEN  
THOUGH HE  
SAID HE  
WANTED  
TO STAY  
WITH ME...

I WAS ONLY  
THINKING OF  
MYSELF.

I'M  
SORRY,  
RITSU.

MM...

もふっ

もふっ



NOW OF  
ALL TIMES...

!! CREAK

BUT  
WHY...



!! CREAK  
!! CREAK

!! CLUNK

!! CREEAK

!!  
!!  
ZSSH

THOSE  
LEAVES THERE  
ARE MOVING  
DIFFERENTLY  
FROM ALL  
THE REST.

UH-OH.  
THIS IS  
REALLY BAD.  
SOMETHING'S  
OUT THERE.  
I KNOW IT.



CRAWLING  
UNDER HIS  
COVERS  
NOW  
WOULD BE  
WRONG...

!!  
!!  
THUD

!! CLUNK

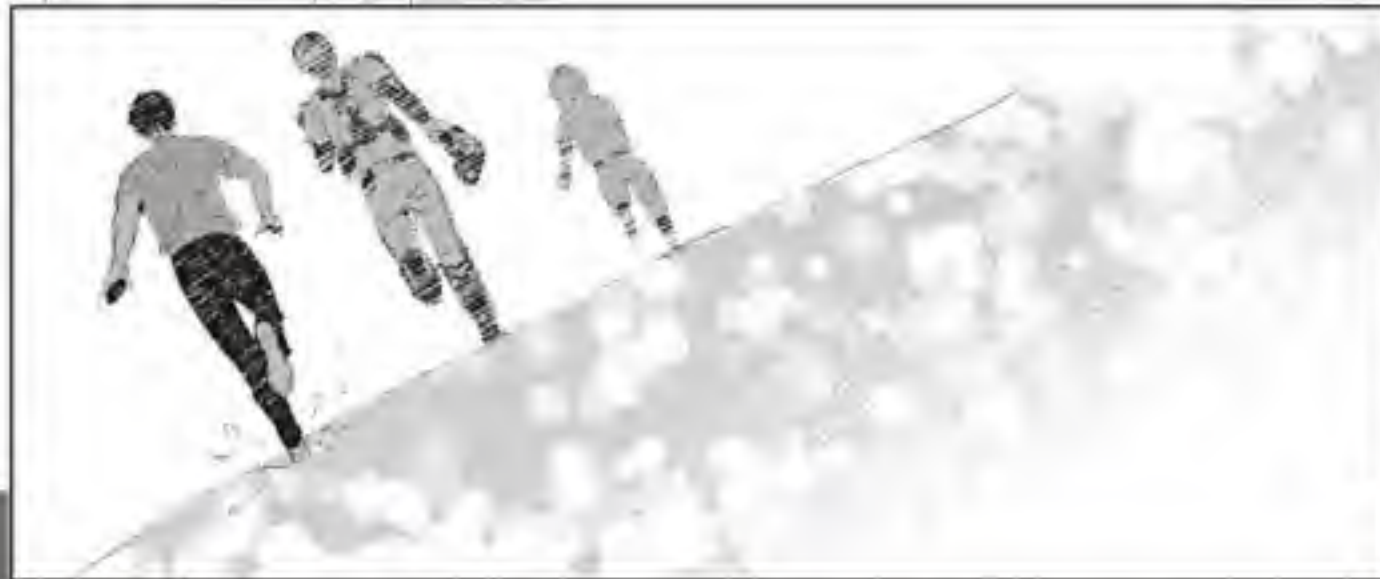
I CAN'T  
BELIEVE  
HE'S  
SOUND  
ASLEEP.















I THOUGHT  
SOMETHING  
PRECIOUS TO ME  
WAS CHANGING...  
BUT IN REALITY...









I THINK I UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU... APART FROM BASEBALL.



I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO CHOOSE BASEBALL.



I'LL HAVE FUN WHEREVER I AM, AS LONG AS RITSU'S THERE.

...



YUTA.



YOU'RE STILL SUCH A SCAREDY CAT, YUTA.

WHAT I HATE ARE GHOST STORIES AND HORROR.

RIGHT NOW'S DIFFERENT.

YOU'RE RIGHT. THIS IS THE KIND OF PLACE THAT GETS HAUNTED.



C  
A  
T  
T  
E  
R

EEK!!

JUST KIDDING.

COME ON, DON'T DO THAT TO ME!



I THINK SO.

DID SOMETHING FALL?

THAT SCARED ME.



...



I LOVE  
YOU, YUTA.



THAT'S  
THE WORD  
FOR IT.

"LOVE!"

THAT'S WHY  
IT DIDN'T  
FEEL QUITE  
RIGHT WHEN  
HE SAID  
WE WERE  
"FRIENDS."

I WASN'T  
PLANNING  
ON TELLING  
YOU YET.



I CAN'T  
DO THIS  
ANYMORE.

DID YOU HIT  
YOURSELF  
SOME-  
WHERE?

ARE  
YOU OKAY,  
RITSUP!

OF  
COURSE  
I'M NOT  
OKAY...

?





SO...

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ALL THIS?



THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING.



MY ANSWER'S THE SAME.

WHAT'RE YOU SO PISSED ABOUT, RITSU?



WHY DID YOU KEEP CALLING US FRIENDS BEFORE?

LISTEN, RITSU.

RATTLE  
ラッ  
ラッ

IT'S ONLY DRIZZLING. LET'S HEAD BACK.



LOVERS?

HMPH.

WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO SAY?



I WANTED TO RESET THINGS.

IF I'D STUCK WITH THE OLD "MARRIED COUPLE"...

I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D EVER REALIZE HOW I REALLY FELT.





6th inning

REPLAY







I LOVE  
YOU, YUTA.

RITSU  
CONFESSED  
HIS LOVE  
FOR ME.



A REASON  
FOR ME AND  
RITSU TO STAY  
TOGETHER.  
THAT'S WHAT  
I WANTED.

I KNEW  
EXACTLY  
WHAT THOSE  
FEELINGS  
MEANT.



WE'RE NOT  
FRIENDS OR  
A MARRIED  
COUPLE.

IT'S NOT  
ABOUT GETTING  
TO PLAY BASEBALL  
OR NOT.

EVER SINCE  
RETIRING, THERE  
HAVE BEEN THESE  
LINGERING,  
UNFULFILLED  
FEELINGS.







BUT I  
CHOSE  
THIS  
PATH FOR  
MYSELF.

RATTLE

I JUST TURNED  
DOWN THE  
RECOMMENDATION  
AND NOW MY  
GRADES HAVE  
PLATEAUED.

LET'S  
GO.



SCUFF //



GYAAH?!

IT'S  
JUST A  
CAT.

RUSTLE

MEOWOW.



DON'T GET  
SO DOWN  
ABOUT IT.

YOU  
ONLY JUST  
RECENTLY  
STARTED  
STUDYING  
SERIOUSLY.

SQUEAK

CREAK

YOU'RE  
RIGHT...



WAIT...

NOW IS  
NOT THE  
TIME TO BE  
SAYING THAT.



I'VE GOT TO  
BE HONEST WITH  
YOU... WITH THESE  
MARKS, IT MIGHT  
NOT BE EASY FOR  
YOU TO GET INTO  
S UNIVERSITY.

MIZUHARA...  
LISTEN.



YOU'RE  
RIGHT.

YEAH.



HAHH.

THUD



YOU MIGHT  
WANT TO  
CONSIDER  
CHOOSING  
ANOTHER  
SCHOOL.



IT'S  
NOT LIKE  
YOU'LL BE  
CONTINUING  
WITH  
BASEBALL.

I UNDERSTAND  
YOU WANT TO  
GO TO THE  
SAME SCHOOL  
AS MASHINO,  
BUT...





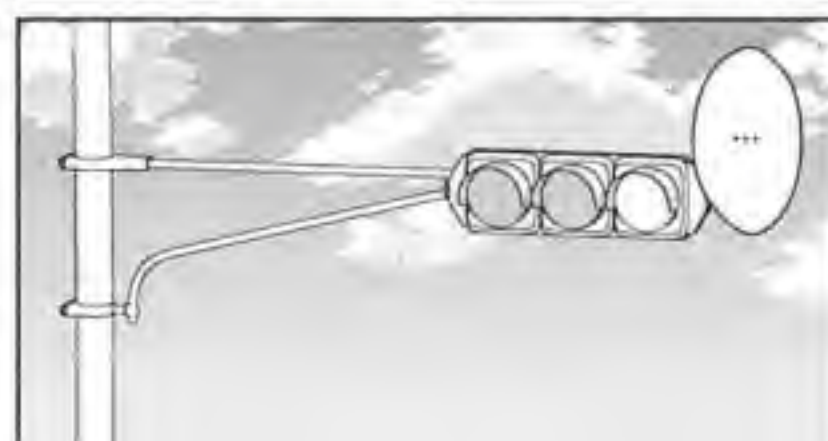




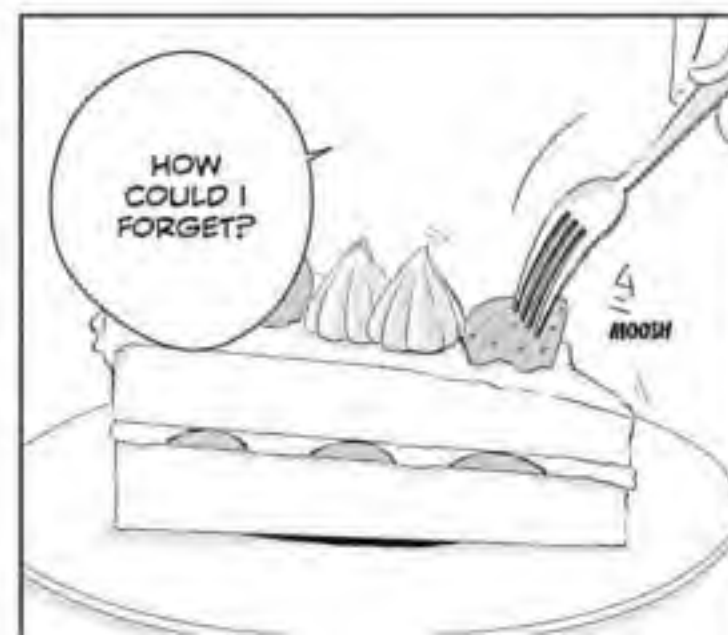




















WHY ARE YOU RESTRAINING YOURSELF?



IT MAKES SENSE, YUTA.

UNLIKE ME, YOU WEREN'T THINKING ABOUT ANY OF THAT STUFF.



YOU DO REALIZE...

WHAT EXACTLY IT IS I'M RESTRAINING MYSELF FROM, RIGHT?



HUHP

SO I DON'T HAVE TO HOLD BACK THEN?



I KNOW WHAT "THINGS" ARE.

ALL MEN DO.

DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME!



IT FIGURES...  
EVEN GAY COUPLES DO THAT TOO.



I'M TALKING ABOUT DOING "THINGS."



WAS THINKING AHEAD.

RITSU...



IT'S NOT EASY TO BRING UP.

I CAN'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT IF YOU DON'T TELL ME!

DON'T BE RE-SERVED WITH ME, RITSU!

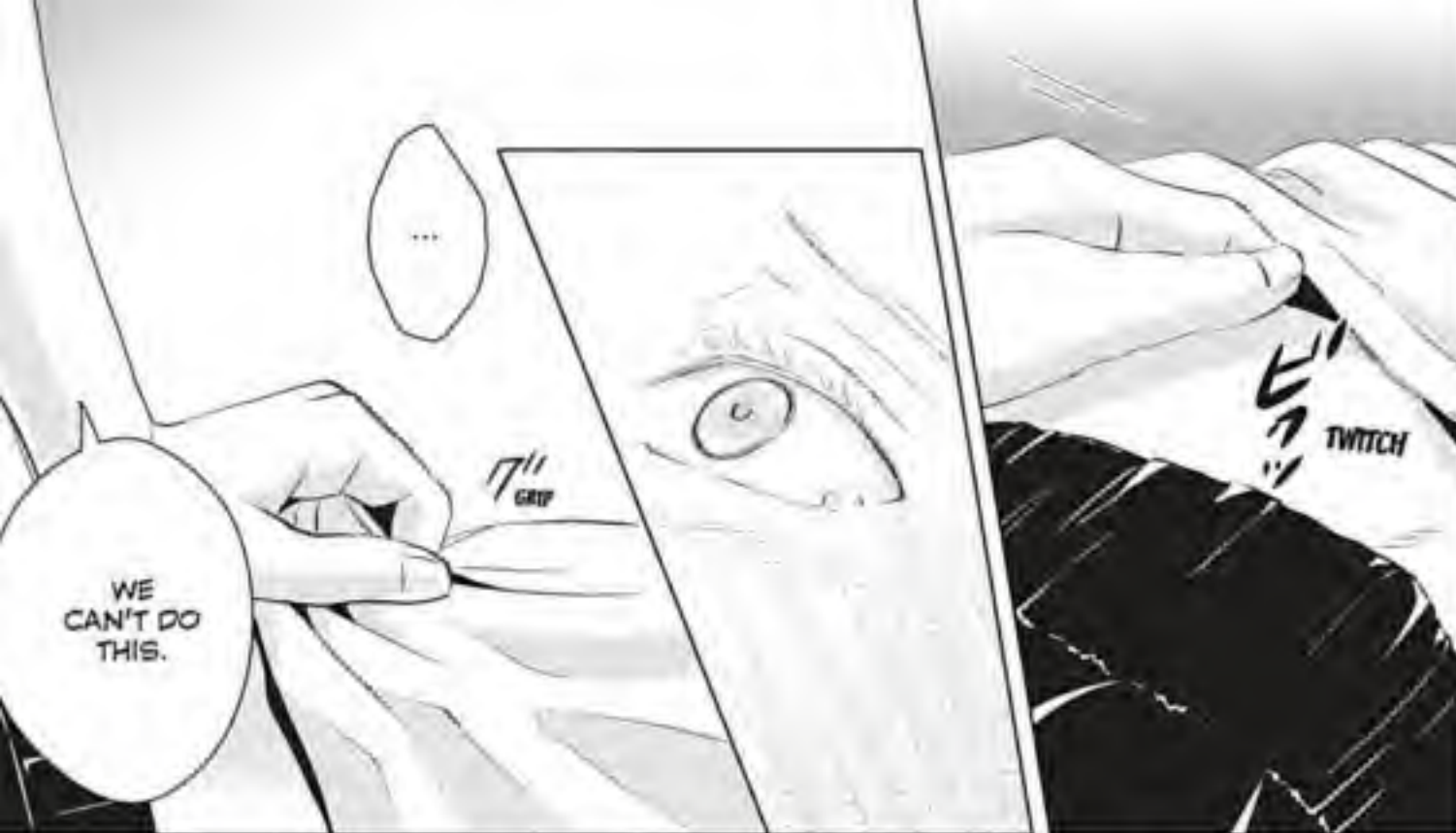


I SEE.

I THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY ONE...

WHO COULDN'T PULL OFF ACTING LIKE MY USUAL SELF.











Last inning

REPLAY















1553











THIS IS  
YOUR KEY.



IT'S  
NOT ON  
MY OWN.



I ALREADY  
GOT YOUR MOM  
TO AGREE.



I DIDN'T WANT  
TO PUT ANY  
MORE UNDUE  
STRESS ON YOU  
UNTIL YOU WERE  
DONE WITH  
YOUR EXAMS.

SORRY  
FOR PICKING  
THE PLACE  
WITHOUT  
GETTING  
YOUR INPUT.





WAS IT  
HARD  
FINDING A  
PLACE...

WITH  
SUCH A  
GREAT  
VIEW?



WHAT  
WERE YOU  
GOING TO  
DO IF I'D  
FAILED TO  
GET IN?



I CAN'T  
BELIEVE HE  
HAD THIS  
SURPRISE  
READY  
FOR ME.

YOU  
REALLY  
ARE SO  
SELFISH.



WHILE ALL I  
DO IS CAUSE  
RITSU TO  
WORRY.



BUT YOU  
GOT IN.





WE STILL DON'T HAVE ANY CURTAINS UP.

H-HOLD ON.

RITSUP?!

HUMP!

THUD K-// #11

#1 CREAK



FWAP バッ #11



WE'RE ON A HILL. WHAT'RE YOU WORRIED ABOUT?

CURTAINS?

SLIP SCIP



WE'LL GO BUY SOME NEXT TIME.

AND BRING YOUR THINGS SO WE CAN START OUR LIFE HERE RIGHT AWAY.

SMOOTH てぎわ

SCIP



THAT'S THE FIRST TIME YOU KISSED ME.



WAS IT... WEIRD?



NOT AT ALL.



...!



MM!





IF YOU SHOWER, YOU'LL WASH AWAY YOUR SCENT.

I DON'T MIND THAT.

I WAS SO EXCITED TODAY, I'M SUPER SWEATY...

BUT...

I SOUND LIKE A GIRL.



I'M AT A COMPLETE LOSS! DON'T LAUGH AT ME FOR BEING AWKWARD!

GWAY OKAY

AAAAUGH! DON'T SAY SUCH EMBARRASSING THINGS!



OH, COME OOOOON!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT EVERY LITTLE THING.



WE'LL REMEMBER THIS FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES.

SMILE = P



BADUMP

WE'VE SEEN EACH OTHER NAKED PLENTY OF TIMES.



AH!

RIGHT!

ANSWERED WITHOUT THINKING.

THE EXAMS ARE SAFELY BEHIND US. SO NOW'S A GOOD TIME.



YOU CAN SHOWER AFTER.

UM! FIRST...

CAN I USE THE SHOWER HERE?

BADUMP

BADUMP

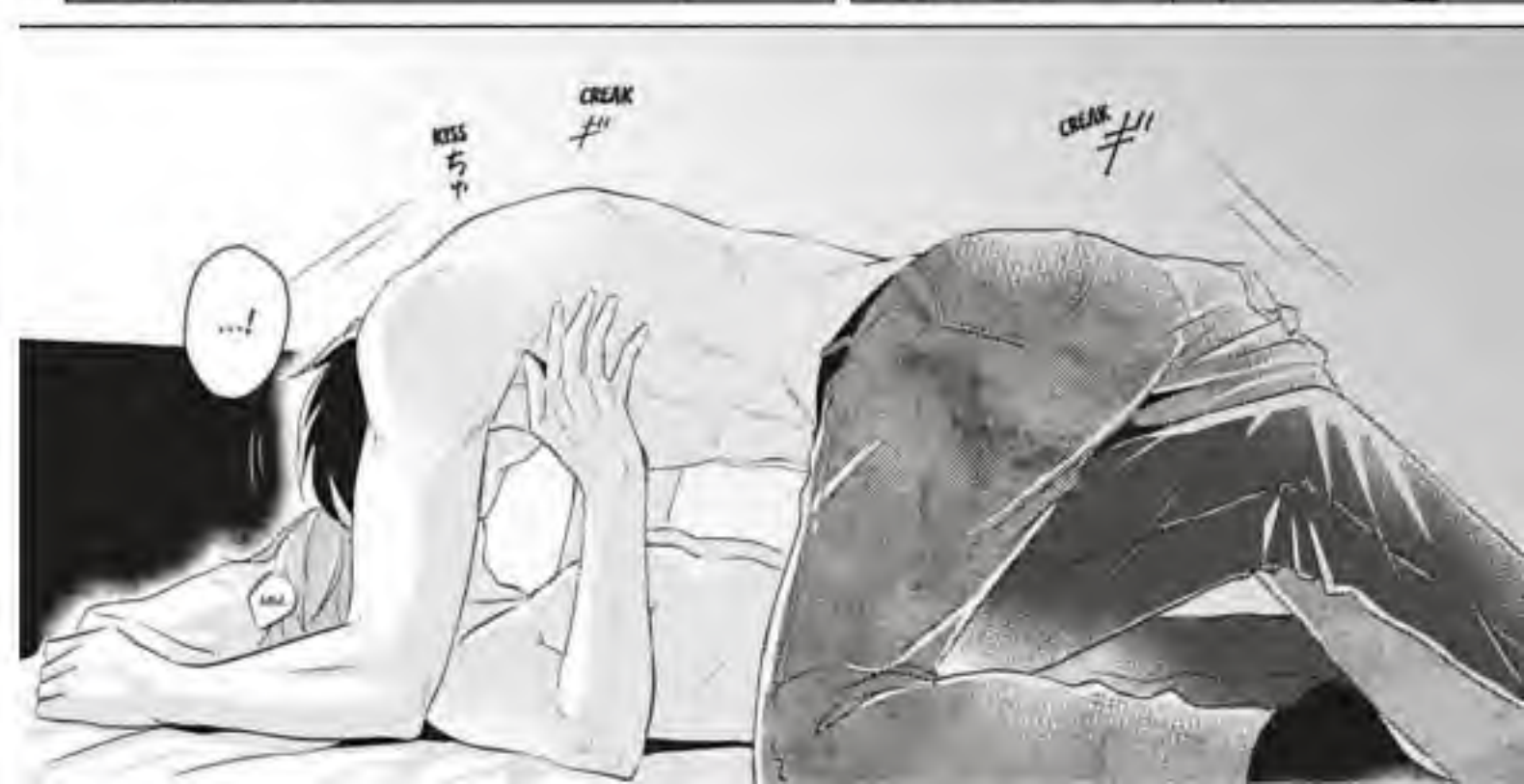
BADUMP

BADUMP

WHEN HE SAYS "NOW'S A GOOD TIME"... HE MEANS TO CONTINUE WHAT WE STARTED THE OTHER DAY.

CREAK #4









BEING ABLE TO SHARE IN THAT IS WHAT LOVERS DO.

I'M THE ONE IN AN EMBARRASSING POSITION HERE.



HIS FACE IS SO FAMILIAR.



AND HIS VOICE IS FAMILIAR.

AND YET...



...

AH!

HAHA!

HAHA...

YOUR VOICE...



POOMF

OW!

AWWW, YOU'RE SO CUTE. SO CUTE.

IS EVEN CUTER THAN I IMAGINED.

~~~~~



























NOW,  
LET'S...

RITSUUUUU!



HERE IT  
COOOOOMES!

BUT THE  
GUY I WANT  
TO BE WITH  
WILL NEVER  
CHANGE.



TEN YEARS AGO,  
I MET RITSU ON  
THIS RIVERBANK,  
WHERE EVERYTHING  
BEGAN.



THE  
SCENERY'S  
CHANGED  
CONSIDERABLY...

SINCE  
BACK  
THEN.















A YEAR AGO, THIS WOULD HAVE ALL BEEN JUST A FANTASY.





REPLAY

